

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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*State Of Maine  
122nd Legislature*

*Second Regular Session*

*Bill Summaries*

*Joint Standing Committee  
on  
Labor*

*July 2006*

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**Members:**

*Sen. Ethan Strimling, Chair  
Sen. Philip L. Bartlett, II  
Sen. Lois A. Snowe-Mello*

*Rep. William J. Smith, Chair  
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# Maine State Legislature



## Office of Policy and Legal Analysis Office of Fiscal and Program Review

### 122nd Maine Legislature Second Regular Session

#### Summary of Legislation Before The Joint Standing Committees

Enclosed please find a summary of all bills, resolves, joint study orders, joint resolutions and Constitutional resolutions that were considered by the joint standing committees of the Maine Legislature this past session. The document is a compilation of bill summaries which describe each bill and relevant amendments, as well as the final action taken. Also included are statistical summaries of bill activity this session for the Legislature and each of its joint standing committees.

The document is organized for convenient reference to information on bills considered by the committees. It is arranged alphabetically by committee name and within committees by bill (LD) number. The committee report(s), prime sponsor for each bill and the lead co-sponsor(s), if designated, are listed below each bill title. All adopted amendments are listed by paper number. Two indices, a subject index and a numerical index by LD number are provided for easy reference to bills. They are located at the back of the document. A separate publication, History and Final Disposition of Legislative Documents, may also be helpful in providing information on the disposition of bills. These bill summaries also are available at the Law and Legislative Reference Library and on the Internet ([www.state.me.us/legis/opla/billsumm.htm](http://www.state.me.us/legis/opla/billsumm.htm)).

Final action on each bill is noted to the right of the bill title. The abbreviations used for various categories of final action are as follows:

CON RES XXX.....	Chapter # of Constitutional Resolution passed by both Houses
CONF CMTE UNABLE TO AGREE.....	Committee of Conference unable to agree; bill died
DIED BETWEEN BODIES.....	House & Senate disagree; bill died
DIED IN CONCURRENCE.....	One body accepts ONTP report; the other indefinitely postpones the bill
DIED ON ADJOURNMENT.....	Action incomplete when session ended; bill died
EMERGENCY.....	Enacted law takes effect sooner than 90 days
FAILED EMERGENCY ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE.....	Emergency bill failed to get 2/3 vote
FAILED ENACTMENT/FINAL PASSAGE.....	Bill failed to get majority vote
FAILED MANDATE ENACTMENT.....	Bill imposing local mandate failed to get 2/3 vote
NOT PROPERLY BEFORE THE BODY.....	Ruled out of order by the presiding officers; bill died
INDEF PP.....	Bill Indefinitely Postponed
ONTP.....	Ought Not To Pass report accepted
OTP-ND.....	Committee report Ought To Pass In New Draft
P&S XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Private & Special Law
PASSED.....	Joint Order passed in both bodies
PUBLIC XXX.....	Chapter # of enacted Public Law
RESOLVE XXX.....	Chapter # of finally passed Resolve
UNSIGNED (Pocket Veto).....	Bill held by Governor
VETO SUSTAINED.....	Legislature failed to override Governor's Veto

Please note that the effective date for all non-emergency legislation enacted in the Second Regular Session (unless otherwise specified in a particular law) is August 23, 2006.

## Joint Standing Committee on Labor

fiduciary obligations, and requires divestment to be complete by January 1, 2008. It provides an exemption for short-term investment funds that commingle commercial paper or futures and for other commingled investment or index funds. The law requires the board to report annually to the Legislature on the progress of divestment and the implementation of the statutory section and provides for the repeal of the section on July 1, 2009. It also repeals statutory provisions relating to shareholder initiatives by state officials on state investments in Northern Ireland.

**LD 1794**                      **An Act To Improve the Maine Enterprise Option Program**                      **ONTP**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> BARTLETT		<u>Committee Report</u> ONTP		<u>Amendments Adopted</u>
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LD 1794 proposed to amend the Maine Enterprise Option program to allow an individual to receive per diem compensation for work related to establishing a business and performance of self-employment assistance activities without incurring a reduction in the self-employment assistance allowance.

**LD 1806**                      **An Act To Clarify Maine State Retirement System Benefits for Certain Legislators**                      **PUBLIC 516**

<u>Sponsor(s)</u> NORTON		<u>Committee Report</u> OTP-AM		<u>Amendments Adopted</u> H-824
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LD 1806 proposed to clarify that a public school teacher, or an employee of the Maine Community College System, on leave of absence to serve in the Legislature, would be eligible to become a benefit recipient from the Maine State Retirement System (MSRS) upon the termination of the teaching position, and leave of absence, even if the individual continues to serve as a legislator. The bill proposed to clarify that a legislator in such circumstances becomes a member of the Maine Legislative Retirement System.

**Committee Amendment “A” (H-824)** proposed to clarify language in order to accomplish the purpose of the bill that a public school teacher, or an employee of the Maine Community College System, on leave of absence to serve in the Legislature, would be eligible to become a benefit recipient from the Maine State Retirement System (MSRS) upon the termination of the teaching position, and leave of absence, even if the individual continues to serve as a legislator.

### *Enacted law summary*

Public Law 2005, chapter 516 clarifies that a public school teacher or an employee of the Maine Community College System, on leave of absence to serve in the Legislature, is eligible to become a benefit recipient of the Maine State Retirement System upon the termination of the teaching position, and leave of absence, even if the individual continues to serve as a legislator. A legislator in such circumstances becomes a member of the Maine Legislative Retirement System.